THE CURIOUS INSTRUMENT.

It was arranged that the interview should take place at 7 in the evening in one of the private chambers adjoining the great dining hall. The Emperor greeted his visitor cordially and without formality. There were present also the Empress, one or two court ladies, and two or three Adjutants of the Empreor's account set of the Empreor's Adjutants of the Empreory and the Empreory of the Empr two or three Adjutants of the Emperor's personal staff. The Kaiser impressed Mr. Wangeman at once as a man of extraordinary force of character, keen perceptions, and remarkably quick intuition. Almost his first request of Mr. Wangeman was that he would take the phonograph to pieces and explain minutely the purpose of each part. This was done, and the Emperor listened attentively, often cutting short the explanation when Almost his first request of Mr. Wangeman was that he would take the phonograph to pieces and explain minutely the purpose of each part. This was done, and the Emperor listened attentively, often cutting short the explanation when he perceived the idea in advance of the words. Whea the instrument was again complete and had been put in operation, the Emperor marveled at what he heard. Mr. Wangeman had taken to the palace a collection of the best cylinders in his possession. They carried on their waxen surfaces the impressions of the voices of many of the prominent personages who many of the prominent personages who had visited the Edison headquarters in Paris, and many selections from the best tional hymn into the phonograph's faithhad visited the Edison headquarters in Paris, and many selections from the best operas which had been produced at the French capital during the exposition.

French capital during the exposition, arder of which he was capable. He has a true German soul for music, for when the desired in the test to see if There were samples, too, of the best work of the most celebrated vocal and instrumental artists then in Europe. Everything was there save the original speakthing was there save the original speakers and artists themselves. A little box, two feet square, containing some dozen or more small, black, hollow cylinders, each having upon its surface hundreds of fine, affinest invisible tracing, represented all that was grandest in harmony and all that was most thrilling in contemporary elequence. After hearing the first revelation of the hidden marvels of the box, the members of the royal party looked at the little black rolls with expressions into which there crept suggestions of superstitution and reverence.

As one treasure after another was

poured into their delighted cars the en-thusiasm and wonder of the listeners were unmeasured. Manifold tests were were unmeasured. Manifold tests were made of the machine's perfect miniery. It talked German, French and English with equal fluency; it sang, it whistled, it laughed, it grouned. Not till nearly with equal fluency; it sang, it whistled, it laughed, it graned. Not till nearly midsight did the royal company weary of the entertainment, and then Mr. Wangeman was permitted to depart after cordial expressions of gratitude and regard, and an carnest request that he would repeat his visit. The hour was so late that the last regular train had left for Berlin, and the Emperor ordered a special train sent out for Mr. Wangeman visualth the morning.

The interest taken by the Kaiser and his household in the phonograph was by no means exhausted, and three times in all by royal request Mr. Wangeman visital to a more formal company of Ambassadors, assembled at the Emperor's invitation. The practical possi-

all by royal request Mr. Wangeman visited the palace. On his second visit he took with him a number of unused cylinders upon which to record the voices of several of the royal family, the music of the court band, and some vocal and pinns solections. piano selections. twenty-four members of the royal house The room was large, some thirty by forty feet, richly furnished, but not elaborately ornamented. It had, in fact, a with a gift of a magnificent diamond put, the letter W, set in brilliants, being surmounted by the imperial crown, also in diamonds.—New York Sun. was playing, as is the custom every even-ing after dinner. After the first greet-ing, and when the phonograph had been ing, and when the phonograph had been unpacked, the Emperor asked Mr. Wangeman to take the instrument entirely to pfeces. The request above the load of the South Platie, in the Emperor said he would try to explain the instrument in detail to those who had not been present on the previous occasion, and would attempt to put it together again. He asked Mr. Wangeman not to help him in any way, but to correct him if he made any mistake. Mr. Wangeman, with some apprehensions, agreed. The task which the Emperor set himself Mr. Wangeman had never seen performed, and he didn't believe the Kaiser, or anybody not an experienced mechanic, could succeed with

ment. William handled the various pieces skilfully and confidently, and explained the purpose of each as lucidly and positively as Mr. Wnageman himself could have done. In a few minutes the dismantled machine was completely restored and it was in perfect order. When he had finished be turned to Mr. Wangeman, who had not spoken during the explanation, with:

"Was that correct, Herr Wangeman?"

he had finished be turned to Mr. Wangeman, who had not spoken during the explanation, with:

"Was that correct, Herr Wangeman?"

The phonograph expert expressed his astonishment at the performance and congratulated the Emperor upon his mechanical skill, quick perceptions, and remarkable memory. The Emperor smiled slightly, and then some fresh treasures of stored music and eloquence which Mr. Wangeman brought with him delighted the company. While the members of the royal family were as free and informal in their treatment of Mr. Edison's representative as any host would have been in the catertainment of a guest, the officious Oberhof Marschal did not permit the fact to be lost sight of that the under the regulation, and the general in their treatment of Mr. Edison's representative as any host would have been in the entertainment of a guest, the officious Oberhof Marschal did not permit the fact to be lost sight of that the young gentieman who was the master of the house was also the Emperor of Germany and the Kirg of Prussia. He bustled about here and there obsequiously. In trying various experiments with the phonograph it was necessary after a cylinder had been once used to shave off a thin film of wax from the surface in order to remove the record thereon, and make the roll available for re-use. This shaving process is done automatically by the phonograph itself when a delicate cutting

tool is substituted for the recording meedle. The phonograph then becomes an automatic lathe, and in about five minutes a cylinder is made smooth and fresh. As soon as the supply of fresh cylinders became exhausted Mr. Wangachel is this proposes. The phono-

A. T. E. Waugeman, Edison's lieutenant in charge of the phonograph, had some highly interesting experiences during his recent tour of Europe with that curious instrument. While the machine was on exhibition in Heidelberg a despatch came from Emperor William, and that the words in the spatch came from Emperor William of Germany, requesting Mr. Wangeman to bring the phonograph to the palace at Potsdam.

It was arranged that the interview should take place at 7 in the evening in facilitate matters. Meantime the Emperor, who perfectly understood the necessary delay, was chatting with others of the company, and would no doubt have re-buked his factotum had he observed his

interference.

The principal object of the yisit that The principal object of the yist that evening was to make phonographic record of the voices of the three little Princes, Wilhelm, Heinrich and Adelbert. The Empress Augusta Victoria was especially desirous of preserving such a memento of the childhood of the boys, and both she and the Empress were much his father's disposition. He is a sturdy, the notes came back in the test to see if the record was perfect the boyish voice was in perfect tune, and the Emperor and his wife were delighted with the results.

Then came little Heinrich, a boy of gentle disposition and delicate organism.
He is a genuine, whole-hearted boy just the same, and he stood in front of the phonograph to repeat the well-k patriotic German poem beginning: hatt' einen cameradin."

The lines are full of fire and pathos. and the little orator put his whole soul into them. The Empress was deeply moved when he came to the lines where treasure after another was the roll of the drum is supposed to come to their delighted ears the enin, but she said nothing until the phono in, but she said nothing until the phono-graph repeated them. Then her eyes filled with tears, and she turned to the Emperor with the words:

"That is the Emperor Frederick's

plain it to a more formal company of Ambassadors, assembled at the Em-peror's invitation. The practical possi-bilities and value of the instrument were then carefully canvassed in all their bearings, and the Emperor ordered 100 phonographs sent to various imperial departments for practical tests

Before leaving Berlin Mr. Wangeman

sent to the Emperor the cylinders bear-ing a record of the voices of the young twenty-four members of the royal house-hold present, and Mr. Wangeman was received in the private room of the Em-peror. The spot was a delightful one. The room was large, some thirty by forty feet, richly furnished, but not elab-

Bernard Kammerman, of Topeka,

live the Kaiser, or anybody not an experienced mechanic, could succeed with it. So he looked on and listened rather the theorem is a superior without hurting his feelings. But the dilemma was an imaginary one, and when the Emperor had finished Mr. Wangeman was overcome with astonishment. William handled the various pieces skilfully and confidently, and explained the purpose of each as lucidly and positively as Mr. Wangeman himself could have done. In a few minutes the dismantled machine was completely restored and it was in perfect order. When he had finished be turned to Mr. Wangeman, who had not spoken during the explanation, with not any apparent ill-effect. The minutes loses its gray hue and warms to a very pale rose color, growing translucent, when innumerable fire veins of a golden red can be seen running through the public with a living fluid. When placed in water the stone turns to a sickly green splotched with white and cream.

PARROTS.

DEALING IN THE NOISY BIRDS A BIG INDUSTRY.

Hundreds Brought Over in a Single Voyago From Cuba and Mexico
—How They are Caught—
Their Value.

The Ward Steamshin Company enjoys the distinction of being the line which brings the noisiest imigrants that are received at this port. Seven or eight thousand of them have already been landed at this port this season. It was on Tuesday that 300 or 400 arrived, and they had to discover themselves to several visitors to the steamer in order to make their presence generally been make their presence generally known, and this they did in their own way. They raised such a hubbub of whirring and fluttering, punctuated with squawks and squasks underneath their tarpaulin cover that the visitors naturally inquired

what caused the noise.

"Parrots,"replied a dark-complexioned man, who seemed to feel as strong proprietary interest in the birds as a large and vigorous Thomas cat whe was pranctured the respective of the seement of the respective of the seement said the dark man as he threw back the tarpaulin, disclosing to view swarms of young Mexican and Cuban parrots, who fluttered wildly and scroeched in a dozen keys as the light entered the cages. They were pretty birds and had been caught in their nest only a fortnight or so before the steamer sailed from Havana.

"There are only 300 or 400 of them." said the parrot-tender in a tone as if he generally considered parrot in the abstract rather than in the concrete. "On the last voyage," he continued, "I had 900 to take care of," and he said it as if the caring for 1000 parrots was a mero bagatelle. "Was I alone" Certainly, bagatelle. "Was I alone? Cortainly, except that Thomas here volunteered his assistance after we left Havana, when he killed a big rat that wandered too near the cages. One healthy, vigorous rat will kill four or five parrots or a dozen canaries in one night. He will eat a parrot's brains and suck its blood in no

The business of importing parrots to The business of importing parties this country has grown to large dimensions within the last twenty years. There are two large establishments in New York city, Bartels's and Ruhe's, who importing the country of the c port from 5000 to 10,000 a year from the South Americas, Mexico and Cana. This, year there has been so much rainy weather in the parrot countries that breeding was interferred with, and the result has been that there is a falling off in numbers. The old birds nest in holes in high trees, and the rain drowns the

We catch parrots when they are young, only a few months old. Indians and natives elimb the trees and 'pull the nest.' They take the birds to the scaports, and we buy them there. Bringing the birds here causes us the worst trouble. First we have to look out for the rate second we have to look out for the rats, second the weather. We stow the parrots away in a warm place and cover the cages with a tarpaulin. They are very susceptible to changes in the weather. I have had nearly an entire consigment die on a voyage. We feed them on pilot bread and age. We feed them on pilot bread and sugared water when they are young. I don't give old parrots pilot bread, but feed them on hompseed. Well, when we get our birds safely in port they are distributed wholesale to small dealers throughout the city and country, who re tail them. The gray or African, is the tail them. The gray or African, is the most expensive parrot, but it is rather

"It is the best, too, but many people think that the Mexican parrot is the best talker. The Mexican is a large bird, and has a green and yellow head. I talker. The Mexican is a large bird, and has a green and yellow head. I have a Mexican bird which can sing 'Peek-a-boo,' and I would not take \$300 for him. A valuable parrot is the Brazilian Amazon, a green bird with a little blue above his beak. But speaking of these parrots we got from Mexico and Cuba, the Cuban is the most numerous and cheapest. They sell from \$24 to \$36 a dozen. They have white heads, red throats and green bodies, and don't learn to speak very plain. The Mexicans bring from \$3.50 to \$5 apieco, the African \$10, and the single yellowheads from \$c, th America \$5.

Arrican 510, and the single yellowheads from Sc; th America \$5.

"The blue head Amazon is scarce now, and I think that the Indians are eating them. Their flesh is exceedingly delicate. Last year about 15,000 parrots were imported to the United States, of which Siele or 10,000 were from Cube. which 8000 or 10,000 were from Cuba, and the rest were from Mexico and the rest were from Mexico and the rest were from Mexico and the rost were from Mexico and the routeries. We get only a few hundreds from Africa. France sends to Africa for parrots, and we export many parrots to England, Germany and Belgium.

gum.
"You will find the partot everywhere, and he makes a good citizen. The last time I was in Holland I saw one that was 150 years old, but by George, he was a cockatoo Still he was a of parrot."-New York Tribune.

Modern Use of an Ancient Vegetable. Candy is the only form in which the ancient vegetable, angelica, is now used by cooks. The tender stems of the stout angelica herb were formerly cooked and served on the table; but a strong aromatic served on the table; but a strong aromatic flavor—to most people a nauseous one—would not be tolerated on the table to-day. Although it was a very popular dish in cruder times, before the present variety of vegetables had been produced by cultivation of wild plants, it has gone entirely out of use as a vegetable. Large quantities of angelica, however, are yearly candled by confectioners in France, and it is imported to this city and sold chiefly to French cooks at \$1 a pound for decorating candied ices, cakes, and other sweet dishes. In the process of candying, angelica loses much of its strong flavor, and it takes on the most heautiful green known to the decorator in candied fruits. The green lime gives a very fruits. The green lime gives a very much paler color and the green prune (the only other green fruit) is dull in color, and of value chiefly for its flavor. On the red of candied cherries and the green of angelica the expert decorator of sweets relies for his color.—

New York Tribuns.

A Cupola Fort.

A Cupola Fort.

The first of the "cupola forts" to be erected in Belgium has been tested successfully. These cupolas are of huge size, and built entirely of steel. Two hundred shots from a twelve centimetre gun, loaded with a battering charge, had no effect on the cupola. Thirty-two of them are being manufactured for the war department by the Societes des Ateliers de la Meuse de Couillet et de Chatillon.—Commercial Advertier.

CURIOUS FACTS.

The area of the West India docks is

There are seven millionaire editors in New York city.

The coins of Siam are made of porce-lain; those of Japan are made principally of iron. There are over three thousand millions

of envelopes manufactured yearly in this

country.

In Carlsruhe, Germany, the police fine any one who plays on the piane with an open window.

The wife of a painter at Macon, Ga., has given birth to a child weighing forty pounds.

A hunter of Chepalis, Washington, recently killed a cougar which measures nine feet five inches in length.

Parising dandies now ween pink blue.

Parisian dandies now wear pink, blue or red shirts in the ovening, with regu-lar low-cut evening waistcoats.

John Weiss, the concert singer, who after an attack of the influenza lost his voice, killed himself at Badon, Austria.

Texas has a double-headed cat. It is perfect in form except the two heads. It has four eyes, four ears and two mouths.

That which Americans call a bowl is

known as a basin in England. In England you ask for a basin of bread and Many New York people who have a taste for ice cream are trying the fad of cating Boston brown bread with their

Ben Dixon, a colored man in St. Louis, Mo., has only two fingers, but he can play eight musical instruments at the same time.

French parents possessing seven or more children have certain exemptions from taxation. In France there are 140,000 families so exempted.

A brutish French miner in the village of Hickman, Penn., wagers that he can eat any small animal alive. Recently he performed the disgusting feat of eating

A woman et Nowark, N. J., is holding a six-year-old child as security for a debt of \$20, due from the mother, who is in Canada, and refuses to give her up un-til the debt is paid.

The barbers of Nordhausan, Saxony, are compelled by law to cleanse and disinfect their brushes, combs and razors immediately after use, and before they are applied to the hair or beard of ancustomer.

An Yamate of a Liverpool (England) workhouse, a watchmaker by trade, who is suffering from bad ayesight, has fashioned a wonderful clock out of pins, boot rivets, buttons, knitting nuedles and iron bed laths. It took three years to

The largest apple tree in Ohio is in The largest apple tree in Ohio is in Washington County, and was planted in 1791 or 1792. The trunk, where it is smallest, girths twelve feet two inches, and the largest branch girths seven feet. It is a seedling, which bears a large yellow apple of excellent quality for cooking.

Malcolm Townsend, the author of Malcolm Townsend, the author of a book of "Curious Facts," says that the word Manhattan is traceable to the Spanish monas, drunkenness; monados, manados, manatoes, a place of drunkenness. At a confirmation of this theory, Mr. Townsend says that Verrazanni, a Florantian navigator, who landed on the islanded on the isl entine navigator, who landed on the island in 1524, called it the Isla Manhattan because he gave the Indians lots of liquor and made them all drunk.

A woman in New York city gains a A woman in New York city gains a precarious living by boarding and taking care of fourteen old blind people. Mornings she leads them to their places, where they sit for charity or peddle small articles, and evenings she fetches them home one by one. She supplies them with their meals and gives them a certain the same of the supplies them with their meals and gives them a certain the same of the same with their means and gives them a cer-tain rude comfort. As she is careful to keep her protoges within the law, she is not interfered with by the police.

A prisoner in the jail at Huntingdon, W. Va., has developed into a remark-able sleeper. He has been there four able sleeper. He has been there four months, and on no one day in that time has he been awake more than four hours while he often sleeps three or four days in succession, it being impossible to rouse him. He wakens with a start, looks about wildly for a moment, then appears to be perfectly at ease. His appetite is good, and he doesn't seem to lose flesh.

A Vinegar Rone's Fatal Bite.

An aged Mexican named Miguel Detgado, living near Tombstone, Arizona, was bitten a few days age by what is lo cally known as a vivegar rone, and died in a few hours in great agoly. These torrible little creatures, which seem never to have come under the notice of naturto have come under the notice of naturalists, or at any rate have never been given a name by them, and are only to be found in this region, are small black creatures resembling very closely a crayfish, or small fresh water crab. They are found in low, damp places, under rocks and stumps of trees and usually lie close to the ground as if asleep or stupid.

They are, says a correspondent of the Philadelphia Times, however, very aggressive, inflicting a bite for which no natidote has been found and which produces death in from three to twelve hours. A violent fever sets in almost immediately, the tongue wells, becom-

hours. A violent fover sets in almost immediately, the tongus swells, becoming intensely dry and parched, the lips burn black and a rash resembling roseola breaks out all over the body. The patient grows delirious toward the end and becomes very violent and possessed of extraordinary strength.

The wound inflicted by the vinegar rone is made by a sting located under the tail and is a small one, like the puncture of a coarse needle, but which leaves the flesh scared and blistered, as if the needle had been red hot. This wound turns perfectly white after the death of the person bitten and gives out a smell so offensive as to be almost unbearable. The vinegar rone is, fortunately, gradually becoming exterminated as in the spring the people search out the eggs and young and destroy them.

A Baried Fortune Found.

It is reported that Mike Scheff, a farfa hand working for Jacob Schmucker, near Tiffin, Ohio, discovered a large quantity of old gold and silver coins, estimated worth \$40,000, under the house and in the ground, which had been buried for over fifty years. Schmucker promised to give Scheff half of the find, but did not do so. Scheff has brought suit against Schmucker for \$20,000. Ira Cadwallader, son of a former owner of the farm, has also brough suit against Schmucker to recover the money. A coffee pot contained \$150 in gold.—

New York News. A Baried Fortune Found.

A Large Sum fo

A Large Sum for a Bible.

A number of wealthy French Jews wish to buy She Yatican copy of the Hebrew Bible from the Pope for £40.000. "I fancy," writes the Paris correspondent of the London Daily News, "that his Holiness could not legally sell it, as he has only a life estate in the Vatican and its wealth of rare books, pictures and furniture."

The history of previous negotiations for the purchase of this very book, says the Pall Mail Gazette, is interesting. In 1512, when Pope Julius II. was desperately in need of funds in order to keep up the "Holy League" against Louis XII. of France, he was approached by the Jews, as his successor in the chair of St. Peter is now. They oftered a comparatively small sum at first, but subsequently increased the amount, tendering at the same time a blank order on one of their number in Venice to be filled up in ducats according to the weight of the Bible as against an equal weight of pure gold.

The Pope got so far as to weight the precious volume, and found that it scaled 325 pounds avoirdupois, or 433 pounds odd troy, which, at \$4 the ounce, then about the value of gold, represented the enormous sum of £20,784 and a fraction. This amount in its equivalent the Jews pressed on the Pope, who, however, either because he found himself unable to part with property in which he would not seem to have more than a life interest, or on account of the pressure brought to bear on him, declined, after much hesitation, to part with the volume.

Should the present negotiations be more successful, the amount now offered will be the largest sum ever paid for a book. The nearest approach was the Gorman Government in 1884 for the Missal formerly given by Pope Lee X. to Henry VIII., along with a parchment conferring on that sovereign the title of "Defender of the Faith." The Missal was given by Charles II. to the then Duke of Hamilton, in whose family it remained for more than two hundred years.

The Rat's Weapens.

The rat is remarkably well equipped for the peculiar life he is ordained to lead. He has strong weapons in the shape of four long and very sharp teath—two in the upper jaw and two in the lower. These teeth are wedge-shaped, and by a wonderful provision of nature have always a fine, sharp, outting edge. On examining them carefully, the inner part is found to be of a soft, 'vory-like composition, which can easily be worn away and the outside is composed of a grass-like enamel, which is exceedingly hard. The upper teeth work into the under so that the centers of the opposed teeth meet perfectly in the act of gnawing, hence the soft part is being continually worn away, while the hard part keeps a sharp chisel-like edge all the time, and at the spine time the teeth are constinuity growing up from the bottom, so that as they wear away a fresh supply is ready. Should one of these teeth be removed by accident or otherwise, the opposing tooth will continue to grow, and there being nothing to wear it away will project from the mouth and be turned upon itself, and if to wear it away will project from the meuth and be turned upon itself, and if it bean under tooth it will often grow so long as to penetrate the skull.

The Japanese Fire Box.

The Japanese Fire Box.

The hibachi is a fire box, of which the simplest form is that of a square, or circular, or oblong receptacle of wood, lined with sheet copper. Into this a quantity of lime dust or sitted ashes is put, and on top of that a little pile of lighted charcoal, which burns slowly and steadily upon the fine ashes, giving out heat, but not a vestige of smoke. This is the primitive and plainest form of the fire box, such as will be seen in one for common purposes at railway stations in Kuruma sheds, in wayside tea houses and restaurants and in unpretentious shops. But Japanese skill and taste love to lavish themselves on this central piece of domestic furniture, and you see hibachis, accordingly, of all forms and materials. Some are made of hammered copper, or brass, or iron, with patterns delicately and beautifully beaten out of the burnished metal. beaten out of the burnished metal. Some I have seen in great houses contrived from the root of a vast tree, the gnarled and knotted timber being laboriously hollowed out and lined with copper, and the exterior carefully polished to bring forth the beauty of the grain.

Mind is superior to things not be-cause it is free from law, but because it is a law in itself.



On the mend consumptive who's not bereft of judgment and good sense, He's taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. If taken in time and given a fair trial, it will effect a cure. Consumption is time and given a fair trial, it will effect a cure. Consumption is Lung-scrofula. For Scrofula, in its myriad forms, and for all Liver, Blood and Lung diseases, the "Discovery" is an unequalled remedy. It's the only guaranteed one. If it doesn't benefit or cure, you get your money back. You only pay for the good you get.

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tains no alcohol to inebriate; syrup or sugar to derange di-gestion. As peculiar in its cura-tive effects as in its composition. Equally good for adults or children.

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the most popular remedy known.

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